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System *focus*

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Director's Corner

First and foremost, I would be personally remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to call attention to the fact that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. An act of domestic violence occurs every 12 seconds in our country and affects people from all walks of life, including our customers and co-workers. There are many services available throughout Washington to support victims and survivors of domestic abuse, providing safety, shelter, support and the opportunity to transition from victim to survivor. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with the resources available in your community.

This has been a particularly challenging month throughout our system. The federal government shutdown impacted our workforce development system in many ways. Services were curtailed or ceased entirely, staff were furloughed, and momentum was lost on key initiatives and projects.

[Read More...](#)

Federal Shutdown Impacts ESD and Customers

As widely reported in the press and media, the recent 16-day federal government shutdown had a direct impact on Employment Security operations as 833 employees were either furloughed or placed on reduced work schedules from October 7th through 16th.

[Read More...](#)

Washington Awarded Federal "Make It In America" Grant

The U.S. Departments of Commerce and Labor have awarded Innovate Washington a \$2.65 million "Make It In America Challenge" grant.

[Read More...](#)

Rapid Re-Housing Initiative Going Statewide

The state Department of Commerce's Rapid Rehousing initiative, which is funded by the Consolidated Homeless Grant under RCW 43.185C, is set to go statewide on January 1, 2014 following a successful year-long, five-county pilot.

[Read more...](#)

WIA Unit Transition

WIA Grants Manager Bob Isom retires from Employment Security effective October 31 after 32 years of service.

[Read More...](#)

WTECB Transition

Bryan Wilson, Deputy Director of the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB), is leaving the organization to become the new State Policy Director for the National Skills Coalition (NSC), a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit organization whose mission is to increase mid-level skills across the nation. In his new capacity, Bryan will provide policy assistance to governors, legislatures, and state agencies across the country. His last day at WTECB is November 15, 2013.

Federal Shutdown impacts ESD and Customers *(cont. from page 1)*

That included 100% furloughs for Workforce and Career Development Division central office staff in the WIA, Rapid Response/WARN, Veterans, Work Opportunity Tax Credit, Foreign Labor Certification, and Technical Assistance and Training units. Those staff are now working to get back on track with projects, assignments, and requests that either were placed on hold at the time of the furlough or came in after the furlough began.

WIA Unit Transition *(cont. from page 1)*

Workforce Development Councils and WIA contractors for whom Bob as the division's central office point of contact are asked to now work with Tami Gillespie, the division's other WIA Grants Manager, during the interim. Tami can be contacted by phone at (360) 902-9768 or by e-mail at tgillespie@esd.wa.gov.

Rapid Re-Housing Initiative Going Statewide *(cont. from page 1)*

The initiative formally partners ESD WorkSource offices and DSHS Community Service Offices with local housing providers as part of a local team designed to execute "warm" handoffs of homeless families to housing providers if homelessness is identified as an issue in the course of assessment processes. The goal is to effect structured and deliberate referrals as opposed to "blind" referrals that may or may not connect homeless families to the right resources. ESD is an important partner, because the Rapid Rehousing model envisions employment and earnings as the key to moving these families into unsubsidized housing within six months of intervention. In this respect, ESD employment services – whether through WorkFirst or Labor Exchange – is as critical to the partnership as "warm" handoffs.

Washington Awarded Federal "Make It In America" Grant *(cont. from page 1)*

These grants will implement a technical assistance program to make small and medium-sized business enterprises more competitive in the global marketplace and to encourage foreign direct investment in economically distressed rural areas of Washington state. To increase high-skill employment, the project will provide advanced educational experiences to incumbent and potential employees through Washington State University's Global Campus Distance Learning and Manufacturing Management Certificate Programs. www.eda.gov/news/pressreleases/2013/10/22/make_it_in_america_awards.htm

WorkFirst LEAN Projects

The Department is getting set to participate in two WorkFirst LEAN initiatives. The first will pull together an internal group of program and service delivery staff and supervisors to examine the administrative work currently required for tracking and verifying participation of WorkFirst participants. That initiative will occur in November. The second will be a joint endeavor with DSHS to examine the referral process in order to reduce the number of participants referred back and forth between DSHS and ESD. That initiative will take place in December. ESD will also engage in at least two other DSHS-led LEAN projects that are expected to be completed by June 2014.



New Policy Guidance

- Service Catalog/Chart of Services Process Changes [WIN 0010 Change 2](#)
- WIA Incentives Awards for PY 2011 [WIN 0049](#)
- Procedural Guidance Relative to the Federal Government Shutdown [WIN 0050](#)

Go2WorkSource Résumé Search

We are happy to announce the successful launch of **Go2WorkSource Résumé Search**. The October 22, 2013 launch made the functionality available to all individuals who currently have an active staff role in SKIES. New users may request access using the existing process for your area for adding/and or removing a new SKIES role.

Go2WorkSource Résumé Search allows staff and partners to search résumés uploaded by job seekers to Go2WorkSource.com to assist seekers with résumé development. The application also allows staff to conduct a search of the résumés in the system for potential candidates to refer to employers.

A total of five training sessions were conducted October 22nd and 24th and taught users how to access and log into Go2WorkSource Administrative Utilities, conduct seeker résumé searches and how to create an automated resume search scout. The next training session will be offered November 20, 2013 at 1:30 pm. To register, visit our [new Staff Development calendar](#) and register.

LEAN: Getting Started

In the era of declining budgets and overstretched staff, more organizations than ever are looking for ways to increase productivity without burning out staff. LEAN can help! LEAN provides the tools and techniques to work smarter not harder. A new webinar series, LEAN: Getting Started, will teach you how to use LEAN tools and techniques to streamline business processes, improve productivity and increase customer satisfaction.

A series of webinars providing the basic tools and methodologies on how to get started with LEAN will roll out in mid-November. The first module will focus on 5S, closely followed by Standard Work and Visual Controls, planned for January 2014.

Watch for November dates posted soon on the [Staff Development](#) calendar.

Learning Management System (LMS)

Jean Kearsley of the Technical Assistance and Training Department is your new contact for the LMS. Jean is currently working on updating reporting relationships in LMS to ensure staff can register for classes. You can help by emailing staff reporting changes to jkearsley@esd.wa.gov.



We want to hear from you!

Send us your comments, concerns or questions. We want this newsletter to reflect our system and welcome your suggestions for future articles. Let us know what you'd like to see!

November 2013 Featured Events

Go2WorkSource Résumé Search Training

11/20/13 - 1:30 pm

To register, click [here](#).

Director's Corner

(cont. from page 1)

To date, we still await guidance from US DOL on the applicability of the back pay provisions of the Continuing Resolution at the local level. Despite all of the upheaval, our system is getting back on track. Thank you all for your patience and efforts to ensure the impacts to our customers were as minimal as possible.

Finally, Washington received kudos from US DOL for our strong PY2012 performance in the WIA and Wagner-Peyser programs. Not only were our numbers strong, but we did not fail a single measure and we exceeded eight of the nine WIA measures. Our state's performance is especially strong in comparison to the nationally set GPRA goals for both programs. Congratulations on a job well done!!

**Have a safe and happy
Halloween!**